

1    What is claimed is:

2    1. An assembly structured to securely retain a louver of a  
3        vertical blind assembly in an operative orientation, said  
4        assembly comprising:  
5            a) a support plate disposed in depending relation to a  
6                carrier assembly of the vertical blind assembly,  
7            b) said support plate located at an upper end of the louver  
8                in supporting relation thereto, and  
9            c) a retaining clip disposed adjacent said support plate in  
10                retaining engagement with a connecting portion of the  
11                carrier assembly.  
12    2. An assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said retaining clip  
13        is removably disposed relative to said support plate and the  
14        connecting portion.  
15    3. An assembly as recited in claim 2 wherein said retaining clip  
16        is structured and configured to at least partially surround  
17        the connecting portion.  
18    4. An assembly as recited in claim 3 wherein said retaining clip  
19        is disposed in sandwiching engagement with the connecting  
20        portion on opposite sides of said support plate.  
21    5. An assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said retaining clip  
22        is disposed in sandwiching engagement with the connecting  
23        portion on opposite sides of said support plate.  
24    6. An Assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said retaining clip  
25        comprises a first clip portion and a second clip portion

1       connected together into clamping engagement with the  
2       connecting portion.

3       7. An assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein said retaining clip  
4       comprises at least one connector disposed in interconnecting  
5       relation to both said first and second connecting portions.

6       8. An assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein said retaining clip  
7       is disposed in sandwiching engagement with the connecting  
8       portion on opposite sides of said support plate.

9       9. An assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein said retaining clip  
10      comprises an open interior having a substantially closed  
11      periphery defined by both said first and second clip portions.

12      10. An assembly as recited in claim 9 wherein said retaining clip  
13      further comprises an interior surface disposed within said  
14      open interior and structured to assume a clamping engagement  
15      with the connecting portion.

16      11. An assembly as recited in claim 10 wherein said interior  
17      surface comprises at least two surface segments each formed on  
18      a different one of said first and second clip portions and  
19      disposed in engaging relation with substantially opposing  
20      parts of the connecting portion.

21      12. An assembly as recited in claim 11 wherein said retaining clip  
22      is dimensioned and configured to retain the connecting portion  
23      within said open interior in sandwiched relation between said  
24      two surface segments and said first and second clip portions.

25      13. An assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein said first and

1       second clip portions are removably connected to one another  
2       and disposed on opposite sides of said support plate and in  
3       sandwiching relation to the connecting portion.

4       14. An assembly as recited in claim 13 wherein said retaining clip  
5       comprises an open interior and an interior surface disposed  
6       therein; at least a portion of said interior surface  
7       comprising a substantially recessed configuration disposed in  
8       retaining engagement with a corresponding part of the  
9       connecting portion.

10      15. An assembly as recited in claim 14 wherein said interior  
11       surface comprises a plurality of surface segments disposed in  
12       spaced relation to one another, at least one of said surface  
13       segments including at least a portion of said recessed  
14       configuration disposed and dimensioned to receive the  
15       corresponding part of the connecting portion therein.

16      16. An assembly as recited in claim 1 wherein said support plate  
17       includes a stabilizing structure mounted adjacent the  
18       connecting portion and cooperatively disposed to restrict  
19       relative lateral displacement of said support plate and the  
20       connecting portion.

21      17. An assembly as recited in claim 16 wherein said stabilizing  
22       structure comprises at least one stop member disposed in  
23       engagement with a part of the connecting portion supportingly  
24       engaging said support plate.

25      18. An assembly as recited in claim 16 wherein said support plate

1       comprises a mounting aperture disposed and dimensioned to  
2       receive the connecting portion there through; said stabilizing  
3       structure comprising at least two stop members each disposed  
4       adjacent a periphery of said mounting aperture in movement  
5       restricting relation to the connecting portion.

6       19. An assembly structured to securely retain a louver of a  
7       vertical blind assembly in an operative orientation, said  
8       assembly comprising:

9           a) a support plate secured adjacent an upper end of the  
10          louver and attached in supported relation to a connecting  
11          portion of a carrier assembly of the vertical blind  
12          assembly,

13           b) said support plate including a stabilizing structure  
14          mounted adjacent the connecting portion and cooperatively  
15          disposed to restrict relative lateral displacement of  
16          said support plate and the connecting portion,

17           c) a retaining clip including an open interior and an  
18          interior surface, said interior surface at least  
19          partially disposed in clamping engagement with the  
20          connecting portion, and

21           d) at least a portion of said interior surface having a  
22          recessed configuration disposed in retaining relation to  
23          the connecting portion.

24       20. An assembly as recited in claim 19 wherein said interior  
25       surface comprises at least two substantially opposed surface

1       segments, at least one of said surface segments comprising a  
2       portion of said recessed configuration disposed and  
3       dimensioned to receive a corresponding part of the connecting  
4       portion therein.

5       21. An assembly as recited in claim 20 wherein said recessed  
6       configuration is formed on each of said surface segments in  
7       receiving engagement with substantially opposite parts of the  
8       connecting portion.

9       22. An assembly as recited in claim 21 wherein at least one of  
10       said surface segments comprises a beveled area formed thereon  
11       and disposed in communication with said recessed  
12       configuration.

13       23. An assembly as recited in claim 21 wherein said retaining clip  
14       comprises at least two clip portions connected together into  
15       clamping engagement with the connecting portion.

16       24. An assembly as recited in claim 23 wherein each of said  
17       surface segments is formed on a different one of said clip  
18       portions in substantially opposed relation to one another.

19       25. An assembly as recited in claim 23 wherein said clip portions  
20       are removably connected to one another.

21       26. An assembly as recited in claim 19 wherein said stabilizing  
22       structure comprises at least one stop member disposed in  
23       movement restricting relation to a part of the connecting  
24       portion supportingly engaging said support plate.

25       27. An assembly as recited in claim 19 wherein said support plate

1       comprises a mounting aperture disposed and dimensioned to  
2       receive the connecting portion there through, said stabilizing  
3       structure comprising at least two stop member each disposed  
4       adjacent a periphery of said mounting aperture in movement  
5       restricting relation to the connecting portion.

6       28. An assembly structured to securely retain a louver of a  
7       vertical blind assembly in an operative orientation, said  
8       assembly comprising:

- 9           a) a support plate secured adjacent an upper end of  
10          the louver in supported relation by a connecting  
11          portion of the vertical blind assembly,
- 12          b) said support plate including a stabilizing  
13          structure mounted adjacent the connecting portion  
14          and cooperatively disposed to restrict relative  
15          lateral displacement of said support plate and the  
16          connecting portion,
- 17          c) a retaining clip including a plurality of clip  
18          portions removably connected together into a  
19          closed, operative position,
- 20          d) said retaining clip including an open interior  
21          having a substantially closed periphery  
22          collectively defined by said plurality of clip  
23          portions when in said operative position, and
- 24          e) an interior surface formed along said open interior  
25          and being disposed in clamping engagement with the

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connecting portion.

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